

## **Why Gasify Victoria when Real Green Alternatives will save the True Economy?**

Simply join the dots. Listen to the conversation: the global one that doesn't deny we are in an age of extinction. We have one million species on the brink. Hear local authorities such as David Lindenmeyer, Richard Kingsford, or Tim Flannery, and to look to the legacy of Polly Higgins — who foretold the shift in international law to include ecocide. Observe the precautionary principle. Write it into law, and uphold it.

Judge the outcome of any proposal for state provided energy by true indices of direct and indirect environmental impact: effects expected on biodiversity, judged by nonpartisan ecologists..

Calculate detrimental effects on water, soil, and air quality, and understand the harm that will come to people and other species. Use the best ecological advice, remembering forests are the lungs of the planet, and water and soil provide our food. These are the resources imperilled by our current way of business, and we need to surpass current standards of world's best practice in any industry in order to pass on to the planet's children a viable future.

The responsibility of government is to lead. We need true vision and leadership such as was seen by Gro Harlem Brundtland. This opportunity is as mundane and challenging as to be just this: Refuse activity that results in any further pollution and design government that supports restorative activity. Anything less is denying what is before us, and how we got here. The government must dare to see how false our economy is.

The culpability and nihilism of demagogues in a time of democracy is mind-bending, soul-destroying and annihilates life. Change this. Meet this opportunity to support the web of life.

Greenwash extractivism is not on. Gas is a carbon-based fuel and decarbonising gas is not possible. Government needs to do away with conjuring. Using the language of oxymorons and contradictions in terms evidences the delusional nature of the irrational thinking that lead us to the brink of catastrophe.

Australia has some catching up to do. We need to go back first principles, and to build into all government locavism, responsibility, and whole of government practice.

Guidance can come from the likes of this report (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/tamarathiessen/2020/06/05/10-most-green-countries-europe-us-ranks-24-environment/?sh=574f76c675ad>)

where, declaring the blindingly obvious, it is stated that

' ... the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) report pinpoints a notable trend, separating the sheep from the goats.

"Nations that pursue environmental policy with care and consistency and a commitment to following data-driven analysis outperform those that are more haphazard in their approach to sustainability."

"Good governance" is critical in green leaders says Esty, Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy at Yale.

The following points help make global green stars, he adds:

Real public participation in the policy process

A carefully structured regulatory strategy

Open debate over sustainability goals and programs

The presence of a lively media

Vibrant NGOs

A commitment to the rule of law. "

These goals are in fact not difficult, but Australia is lazy, we reach to 1950s standards.

Victoria must develop a vision of its place on a thriving emerald-green-blue planet, and we have easy indices of success. For instance: if the activity is not going to tangibly benefit say the Great Barrier Reef this decade, well then it's not worth doing. In other words ..

**Think Differently. Small is Beautiful. Local is the Future. Help Nature. In Nature we have a True Economy.**